Rs. 345 crores in March 90, if so, whether any study/enquiry has been made to identify the causes of such financial wreck of the company; and

(c) whether the company in question proposed to Government for waiting off loans and the interest due from it, if so, when and what is the amount separately in respect of both counts and whether Government have taken any decision on that proposal, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The accumulated losses of the company amounted to Rs. 345.65 crores at the end of March, 1990, including interest on Government loans of Rs. 173.77 crores. A Committee was appointed by EPI to go into the issue of losses incurred by them. The Committee has submitted its report.

(c) The proposal was received in February, 1991 for financial restructuring of EPI including writing off of Government loan of Rs. 160.11 crores and interest on Govt. loan of Rs. 173.77 crores. The proposal is under consideration.

Foreign investment proposals

2039. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Empowered Committee has recently approved 25 foreign investment proposals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of proposals pending before the committee for consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In the 9th meeting held on 9-2-1993, the Empowered Committee approved 25 foreign investment proposals recommended by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board. Of these, 13 proposals were for setting up 100 per cent Export Oriented Units in areas like Shoes, Synthetic Filament Yarn, Chemicals, Food Processing Industries, Rubber Products and Granites. The proposals cleared by the Empowered Committee envisage direct foreign investment, including NRI investment in Indian Companies, of over Rs. 160 crores.

(c) Consideration of proposals by the Empowered Committee is a continuing process.

Problems of Handicapped persons working in PSUs

2040. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes of rehabilitation of handicapped persons including their employment in the Central Government Undertakings;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have received information from various sources that some of the public sector undertakings are declining to follow the guidelines issued by Government in the matter of treatment meted to handicapped persons;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some of the PSUs have been contesting the cases with handicapped persons in various courts of law;

(d) whether any effective steps have been taken to resist such decisions of the PSUs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Details of schemes of rehabilitation of handicapped persons including their employment in Central Government Undertakings are given in the statement (*see below*).

(b) to (e) The Government has already issued Comprehensive directives regarding employment of physically handicapped persons in the Central Public Sector Undertakings and these directives are mandatory. As regards cases relating to litigations, if any, between PSUs and handicapped persons, the PSUs are not required to furnish details of such cases to the Government and hence this information is not maintained centrally by the Govt.

Statement

Major schemes for the welfare and rehabilitation of physically handicapped persons.

1. *Scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled Persons*:

Under this scheme, grant-in-aid is provided to the organisations working for the welfare of disabled persons. 90 per cent financial assistance is given to such voluntary organisations, who provide education, training and rehabilitation facilities to disabled persons.

2. *Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Pesons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances*:

Under this scheme, grants are given to voluntary organisations for providing aids and appliances whose value ranges between Rs. 25/- and Rs. 3,600 to disabled persons (i) free of cost if their income is less than Rs. 1200/- p.m. and (ii) at 50 per cent cost if the income ranges between Rs. 1201/- to Rs. 2500/- per month. This scheme is implemented through voluntary organisations spread all over the country.

3. *Employment* :

3 per cent vacancies have been reserved for physically handicapped—1 per cent each for the visual, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in Central Govt. and Public Sector Undertakings. The handicapped including the blind are also given age concession in the medical standards for entry into Government services.

23 Special Employment Exchanges and 55 Spacial Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped, in getting gainful employment. Besides, the normal employment exchanges also help the handicapped persons in finding suitable employment.

4. *Establishment of National Institutes*.

In order to effectively deal with the multi-dimensional problems of the handicapped population, the following four National Institutes have been set up in each major area of disabilities:

1. National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun.

2. National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta.

3. National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay.

4. National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad.

These are premier apex level organisations in their respective fields in the area of education, training development of manpower, vocational guidelines, counselling, research, development of suitable services modules and low cost rehabilitation aids for the handicapped.

In addition to the four National Institutes the following 2 organisations have been working in the fields to provide training facilities and services for rehabilitation of persons with locomotor disabilities:

1. Institute for the Phyically Handicapped (IPH), New Delhi.

2. National Institute for Rehabilitation Training and Research (NIRTAR), Cuttack.

Proposals for setting up of industries in Maharashtra

2041. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals received by the Centre from the Maharashtra Government for setting up of Industries during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) the names and details of proposals which have been approved and those which have been rejected during the said period with reasons therefor; and

(c) the proposals which are still pending with Government and the steps taken for their speedy disposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) During the years 1991-92 and 1992-93 (Upto February), three applications were received from undertakings belonging to State Public Sector/State Industrial Development Corporations of Maharashtra. Against these, one Letter of Intent was granted, one application was not processed as licence was not required and one application is being processed.

Auction of goods by Hindustan Photo Film Manufacturing Company, Ootacamund

2042. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company (Ootacamund) have been forced to auction goods;

(b) what are the various factors which have adversely affected the company;

(c) what steps Government propose to take to streamline the company;

(d) whether any collaboration with a foreign company and Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. is in the offing; and

(e) the details of plans over the next five years to increase the profitability of Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) In December, 1992, Hindustan Photo Films Ltd. (HPF) invited sealed quotations for sale of colour paper and graphic arts films.

(b) to (d) The performance of the company has been adversely affected because of increased competition after delicensing of the industry. The Government is frequently reviewing the performance. Steps erations of the company include intaken to streamline the present optroduction of a Voluntary Retirement Scheme to reduce overheads and make the products competitive. No collaboration with a foreign company has been proposed.

(e) The company is implementing a new project to make polyester